

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed September 8, 2005, has been carefully considered. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 44 – 64 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fujita et al. (U.S. pat. no. 6,118,435, hereinafter, “Fujita”).

Claims 51-64 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their subject matter and the rejection thereof is moot.

Claim 44 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, an actuator in mechanical communication with a housing supporting a touch screen such that the housing is actuated based on an interaction with the touch screen. Support for this amendment is found in the specification. For example, attention is respectfully directed to the first paragraph of page 9 discussing housing actuation and referencing material incorporated by reference from what are now U.S. patents numbers 6,088,019 and 6,184,868.

In contrast, Fujita discloses actuation of a touch panel. Fujita does not disclose actuation of a housing supporting a touch screen. Driving portion 5 of Fujita is configured to actuate a touch panel 3. In some instances, driving portion 5 may be configured to independently drive different portions of the touch panel 3 (see col. 11, ll. 27-36); however, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Fujita that either of these portions be in mechanical communication with a housing to thereby “output a haptic force to the housing” in the manner of claim 44, or that one portion be dedicated to haptic force to the housing and the other be dedicated to haptic force to a touch screen supported by the housing in the manner of claim 45. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 44 and 45, and of claims 46-50 dependent therefrom, based on Fujita be withdrawn.

Conclusion


In view of the preceding discussion, Applicants respectfully urge that claims 44-50 of the present application define patentable subject matter and should be passed to allowance.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone call would help advance prosecution of the present invention, the Examiner is kindly invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number below.

Please charge any additional required fees, including those necessary to obtain extensions of time to render timely the filing of the instant Amendment and/or Reply to Office Action, or credit any overpayment not otherwise credited, to our deposit account no. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,
THELEN REID & PRIEST, L.L.P.

Dated: March 8, 2006


Khaled Shami
Reg. No. 38,745

Thelen Reid & Priest LLP
P.O. Box 640640
San Jose, CA 95164-0640
Tel. (408) 282-1855
Fax. (408) 287-8040